

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for taking the time to discuss this application by telephone and consider the Proposed Amendments For Discussion forwarded on November 24, 2003.

Claims 1-3, 10, 12-17, 22-24, 26 and 27 are pending. Claims 22 and 26 have been allowed. Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 23, 24 and 27 remain rejected. Claims 10 and 14-17 remain objected to. It is understood that the amendments of October 6, 2003 have not been entered, as indicated in the Advisory Action of November 7, 2003. By this amendment, claims 1-3, 12, 23, 24 and 27 are amended. The amendments have been made in view of the discussion held with the Examiner on November 24, 2003. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the application, for instance in the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections and objections.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 23, 24 and 27 were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Klug et al. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot in view of the claim amendments indicated herein. Applicants urge withdrawal of all rejections.

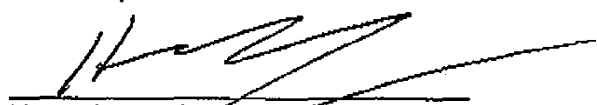
Claim Objections

Claims 10 and 14-17 were previously objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants respectfully submit that the objection is also moot in view of the claim amendments indicated herein. Applicants urge withdrawal of all objections.

In view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance and request favorable action thereon.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300, along with any other additional fees, which may be required with respect to this paper referencing Attorney Docket No. 108910-09024.

Respectfully submitted,



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